

SENATE BILL 3255
By Bryson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, relative to credentialing of healthcare providers by health insurance entities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

56-7-____

(a) A health insurance entity as defined in § 56-7-109, shall reimburse a physician for medical care rendered from the date that a physician's credentialing application is submitted to the entity.

(b) Any credentialing application submitted by certified mail return receipt shall be deemed complete within ten (10) business days of receipt if the health insurance entity does not request any and all missing information within that time.

(c) A credentialing application filed electronically shall be deemed complete within seven (7) business days of submission if the health insurance entity does not request any and all missing information within that time.

(d) If the credentialing application is ultimately denied by the entity, then the duty to reimburse the physician as a network provider shall not apply.

SECTION 2. The commissioner of commerce and insurance has authority to promulgate rules as to how receipt shall be verified in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the

act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to the end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it